

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1-24. (Cancelled).

25. (Currently amended). A method of inhibiting an infection, comprising administering to the gastrointestinal tract of an animal contacting an infected site with a composition comprising an isolated Bacillus strain, wherein said strain produces more lysine aminopeptidase than Bacillus coagulans Hammer strain ATCC No. 31284 the composition of claim 1.

26. (Currently amended). A method of inhibiting an infection, comprising administering to the gastrointestinal tract of an animal contacting an infected site with a composition comprising an isolated Bacillus strain, wherein said strain is selected from the group consisting of Bacillus coagulans GBI-1, Bacillus coagulans GBI-20, Bacillus coagulans GBI-30 and Bacillus coagulans GBI-40, or a combination thereof contacting an infected site with a Bacillus coagulans composition.

27-28. (Cancelled).

29. (Original). The method of claim 26, wherein said composition comprises a viable vegetative bacterial cell.

30. (Original). The method of claim 26, wherein said composition comprises a bacterial spore.

31-32. (Cancelled).

33. (Original). The method of claim 29, wherein said composition is administered at a dose of 1×10^2 to 1×10^{14} viable vegetative bacterial cells per day.

34. (Original). The method of claim 30, wherein said composition is administered at a dose of 1×10^2 to 1×10^{14} spores per day.

35. (Currently amended). The method of claim 26, wherein said composition is administered orally, or buccally, topically, vaginally, nasally, ocularly, or otically.

REMARKS